

## **HIV Partner Counseling and Referral Services**

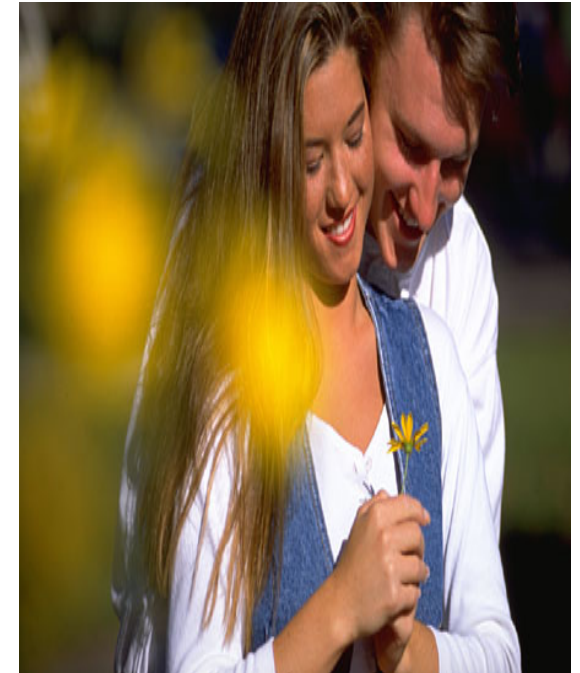
### **Rights of Clients**

1. To have access to services that provides client-centered counseling and referrals for HIV-infected individuals and their partner (s).
2. To be treated with dignity, courtesy, and respect.
3. To have all information treated in confidential manner.
4. To be given options on how to inform sex and/or needle-sharing partner (s) of their possible exposure to HIV.
5. To be provided HIV information that is updated and factual.

**NH Department of Health & Human  
Services  
STD/HIV Prevention Section  
29 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03301  
Phone: (603) 271-4502  
1- 800-228-0254**

## **HIV Partner Counseling and Referral Services**

### **What your Partner(s)**



### **Need to know**

- **Privacy**
- **Confidentiality**
- **Peace of mind**



### **What Your Partners Need To Know**

A positive HIV test means that you are infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Being infected with HIV means that you will have to make decisions that affect you and your sex and/or needle-sharing partner(s). One of the most important decisions you will need to make is when and how to notify your partners of their possible exposure to HIV.

To assist you in developing a plan for informing your partner (s), you may consider using HIV Partner Counseling and Referral Services which are strictly confidential and designed to protect your privacy.

### **What are HIV Partner Counseling and Referral Services?**

Partners should be informed that they have possibly been exposed to HIV. HIV Partner Counseling and Referral Services (PCRS) is a program that provides services to HIV-infected persons and their sex and /or needle- sharing partners. These services are confidential, voluntary, and absolutely free. Your name will not be mentioned.

HIV Partner Counseling and Referral Services are offered to everyone who tests HIV positive in New Hampshire.

### **Why Should my Partner (s) Be Notified?**

**YOUR PARTNER (S) MAY BE INFECTED AND NOT KNOW IT.** If they know they have possibly been exposed, they can decide if they want to get tested for HIV.

**IF INFECTED, YOUR PARTNER (S) CAN GET EARLY MEDICAL CARE** and practice behaviors that protect others from becoming infected with HIV.

**IF UNINFECTED, THEY CAN RECEIVE COUNSELING** about practicing safer behaviors to avoid possible future exposure to HIV.

**THEY CAN GET UPDATED INFORMATION** about HIV, AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases.

### **How Can HIV Partner Counseling and Referral Services Help Me?**

**A DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALIST CAN ASSIST YOU** in informing your sex and/or needle-sharing partner (s). If you prefer, these specialists will provide confidential partner notification, counseling, and referral services to your partner (s). **Your name will not be mentioned.** They can also offer counseling, HIV information, and HIV testing.

### **THE DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALIST CAN:**

**HELP PREPARE YOU** to tell your partner (s) of their possible exposure to HIV.

**GIVE YOU SUPPORT** and answer any questions that may come up.

**ASSIST YOU** in identifying and addressing other medical and non-medical needs.

### **Where Can I Get These Services?**

These services are available through local county health departments. Community-based organizations and private physicians provide referrals to the local health departments for PCRS. To request help, please contact The Department of Health & Human Services STD/HIV Prevention Section 1-800-228-0254.

Informing your partner (s) is a tough job, but they need to know. HIV Partner Counseling and Referral Services can help.